

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 INRE-00 /030 W
----- 009300

O R 201325Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2196
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 7372

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM
USINFO ALSO FOR IEA
BANGKOK FOR HEDGES
BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. A PLASTIC CHARGE EXPLODED IN A TREE OUTSIDE THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AT MID-MORNING FRIDAY BUT THERE WAS NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES. THIS WAS THE FIRST INCIDENT OF THIS SORT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

2. AIDED BY U.S. AIR COVER, A RETURN CONVOY SAILED DOWN THE MEKONG RIVER CROSSING INTO SOUTH VIETNAMESE WATERS WITHOUT INCIDENT AT 4 P.M. THE CONVOY CONSISTED OF 5 CARGO SHIPS, ONE POL VESSEL, 7 TUGS AND 16 EMPTY BARGES.

3. THREE POSITIONS OF A TERRITORIAL COMPANY REMAIN ENCIRCLED ADJACENT TO HIGHWAY 15 SOUTHEAST OF PREY VENG. THEY ARE BEING RESUPPLIED BY AIR DROP WHILE REINFORCEMENTS ARE ATTEMPTING TO REACH THEM. A ROCKET ATTACK FRIDAY AGAINST THE OUTSKIRTS OF PREY VENG WOUNDED 6 SOLDIERS AND 5 CIVILIANS.

4. NORTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH, UNITS OF THE KHMER 7TH DIVISION WERE ATTACKED THURSDAY FROM THE SOUTHEAST BY AN ESTIMATED
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ENEMY BATTALION. THERE ARE NO REPORTS YET OF CASUALTIES.

5. AND SOUTH OF PHNOM PENH, UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE THAT AN UNKNOWN SIZED ENEMY FORCE ATTACKED FANK POSITIONS ON THE EAST FLANK OF THE ROUTE 3 PERIMETER LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

6. ATTACKS BY FIRE WERE REPORTED FROM NUMEROUS LOCATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY ON THURSDAY INCLUDING EIGHT PROBES UPON THE TAKEO PERIMETER CAUSING ONE FANK DEATH AND 6 WOUNDED.

7. A TRUCK CONVOY FROM PHNOM PENH TO BATTAMBANG WAS REPORTED TO BE NEARING THE NORTHERN PROVINCIAL CAPITAL LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON WITHOUT INCIDENT. ITS CARGO CONSISTED MAINLY OF STEEL FOR CONSTRUCTION.

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